Quick Start – Barney Krucoff, DoIT

- TUgis is March 18, 2014 and everyone is encouraged to register if they have not already done so
- MSGIC and DoIT are co-sponsors of the conference along with Towson University

Proposed Open Data Legislation – *State Senator Bill Ferguson*

- Representative of Downtown and Southeast Baltimore City
- Covering a diverse district in the State with one of the largest innovation sectors
- Examples include Betamore, Emerging Technology Center (ETC)) and many technologists who are engaged in using technology to improve government
- A civic hacking group interested in using technologies to improve government processes started 2 years ago
- Participating in a joint committee on transparency and open government along with State Delegate Kumar Barve
- Pillars are Open Meeting Act and Public Information Act (PIA)
  - The way we think of data and information has changed and these 2 pillars need to change also
  - Open Meeting Act and Public Information Act become less important
- A PIA request is no longer needed, because data is already available
  - Moved to an ombudsman role to help with getting the data they need
  - Find the data they want and help them through the process
- GPS was at some point private
  - A rich dataset that has now been made available through the GPS framework
  - Would not predict its widespread use since the initial creation
- Want to ask what you do not have already, this is impossible to predict

- Hearings related to the bill have occurred over the last 2 years
- Listed everything that could be released and assessed why it is not released
- More research was done on each component and the process got more complicated
- To do this well, it takes a lot of hard work to open data, publish public data where it is lawful, effectively and efficiently
- Did not want to do a task force, but did want to study it a little bit longer
- This is a paradigm shift on how governments can work in the future
- Take what we have and see if efficiencies can be gained
- Take the exports to see how this can be applied in an elegant solution

- Part 1 is create an Open Data Council, which will be made up of mostly those already in this room
  - 35 members from State agencies, private sector, local government, one House member, one Senate member
  - Council will determine how to make Maryland an open data state in ways that it is not already
- On the forefront and what is being done are MD iMap and Maryland Open Data
- Combine efforts, synergies and publish as one entity through one portal

- Sets forth what open data is, what data set is, information is, and what is lawfully allowed to be published, still protects secure data protected by HIPPA, etc.
- Mechanisms to allow each department to better collaborate and make Maryland State public data public
- Different agencies have purchased different systems and the systems do not match up with one another and cannot work with one another

- Part 2 sets standards in procurement process for any department who is purchasing software
- Analysis must be done to determine that the technology can integrate with other agencies systems and can help move forward the public facing data availability
- Only applies to state executive level, which is an intentional choice, does not apply to local governments, does not apply to judiciary or legislative branch
- Executive branch is more nimble and has more resources to make these conversations happen expeditiously
- Hope that executive branch leads the way and finds out what works and what does not and makes recommendations
  o Incentive programs for locals to take up the cause
- Not a new idea, has been done for many years, but trying to coalesce all of it and make data as public and open as possible

Question: Do you foresee providing more criteria on what can be released?
- Set forth definition of what can be released
- Looked at other states who have pieces of what this means and looked at other open data protocols
- Get the sense that the open data concept will evolve over time
- Believe that the experts in the field should be defining how this happens, how it functions and what it means
- Look forward to the council providing guidance back as to what is open data and what is feasible

Question: NJ has Opera (Open public records act), how does Maryland compare?
- Opera is fairly fleshed out, but does not have the spatial component worked out yet

Question: What happens with the bill in the upcoming future?
- Bill is cross filed, in Senate and House
- Will go to Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
- Hearing on March 4th or 5th
- Amendments on the bill to take out judiciary and legislative branches
- Will most likely be accepted in each body
- Pass out by March 15th
- No problems within the next month, pass the bodies and through the other committees
- Governor will sign April 8th
- Effective July 1, 2014

Question: Is there a list of co-sponsors?
- Co-sponsors, there are a few people from the Joint Committee on Transparency & Open Government
- Lots of interest on the floor and put at 80% passage rate

Question: What is the bill number?

- Senate Bill 644

Question: Is there a budget associated with these efforts to facilitate its activities?

- No
- Having a funding conversation with the legislature tends to be difficult
- A lot of learning and study needs to go into having these conversations and there is some gaps in knowledge
- Hard to make the case
- In the Governor's budget, positions formally funded by the selling of Maryland Property View (MDPV) data (4 FTEs) were put in the budget as state-funded positions and can eliminate the MDPV fee
- Great step in the direction of making data open without a fee
- Hope is this council raises the level of recognition and can come back with recommendations that can be done with a budget
- Needed to pass the bill this year, before Administration change occurred

Question: Is open data synonymous with free data?

- Yes, in the perfect world of no restraints
- Gradualist and believe good things happen over time
- Need to aim for this, but might not get there tomorrow

Question: What anticipated impact is there from the State to the locals?

- Represent Baltimore City which has made a push for open data and has their own portal
- Montgomery County, Howard County and Baltimore City have open portals already
- Many counties are not there, yet because they have other priorities
- Varying levels of sophistication
- Recently passed the new ethics law, made standard at state level and applied to locals that they must meet a minimum level and for 2 years it had to be fixed and finessed
- Experience has informed why locals have been brought on in an advisory capacity
- It might be mandatory at some time, but would be helpful to explain constraints and learn from each other
- Once more standardized can filter down in a packaged format to locals

Question: Has there been any discussion about managing results related to StateStat?

- StateStat is staffing and co-chairs the Council
- Goal is to take systems and protocols that are already in place and build on them and not create new ones
- Eliminate some of the redundancy

Slower Introductions Purpose of the Joint Meeting – *Matt Power (StateStat) & Barney Krucoff (DoIT)*

- Matt Power was the Deputy Secretary at MDP for 14 years
- Involved in the MD iMap and Open Data Executive Order creations
- Last meeting started to discuss why these efforts are being done independently
- Talking about data on each side of the discussion
- Maryland is ahead of the curve concerning open data

- Some representatives are the same on both sides of the wall and some are different, so we want to get together and talk about data in general, spatial or not
- Want to see more open data, more free data
- Worked very closely with Senator Ferguson as legislation was being developed
- Received a lot of pressure to make everything open
- But reality is that some data should not be open and some do not have application if they are open
- Found a middle ground and wanted to not add to legislation that locks everyone down
- Brings the 2 Executive Orders and the groups together
- Executive Orders can lose juice when an Administration changes
- Wanted to have a forum which would withstand past this Administration
- StateStat manages the Open Data Portal, by convenience, not be necessity, another group could be running these responsibilities
- New Council will be Chaired by DoIT and Vice Chaired by StateStat, staffed by DoIT and StateStat

Proposed FY15 Changes to Maryland Property View Distribution (Presentation Available) – *Jim Cannistra (MDP)*
- Property data has been sold for the past 20 years and discussions to follow on how this is about to change
- MDP produces and maintains statewide property maps
- Traditionally sold to other State agencies and the private sector
- Also generate and distribute Census data, free of change
- Changing how the property data will be distributed in the future
- Property data cuts across many industries and groups of consumers
- Goal is to share the data with all of the users at no cost and make data easily accessible
- Some concerns about implementation were expressed at September Executive Committee meeting
- Data will be downloadable and some will be on MD iMap for hosting and distribution and made available through Enterprise-wide geodatabase
- Changing the structure, so not billing agencies or private sector, but appropriate funding in the general funds to cover the costs
- This has been a multi-year effort to change this business model, including in the MDP budget submission from 9 months ago
- Defended at DBM budget hearings, included in the Governor's budget, considerable back and forth with the legislative analysts about pros and cons
- Trying to clarify what was being done and how this was different then what is already out there, a lot of education occurred during this process
- Hoping for preliminary approval at the end of session and can implement change sometime this summer
- Have been pushing this for a long time, but when other organizations demand that data be available to them and demonstrate benefits, mindsets are changed
- Got letters of recommendations from DoIT, MSGIC, Salisbury Universiry, Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC) and CoreLogic, a private sector organization which heavily relies upon this data
- Anticipate it is going to happen

- Implementation was divided into 3 phases:
  o Phase 1: Summer/Fall 2014

- o Phase 2: Remainder of FY15
- o Phase 3: Future
- There are already a variety of map services which are internal at MDP
- Will be adding additional services to MD iMap or MDP servers
- A lot of people do not just want to consume map services, they want the data itself and download sites/options will need to be developed
- It will be important to monitor the number of people who are consuming this data
  - o Will need to setup a structure and a system to do this
- Last Step: applies to State agencies, integrating and sharing common Enterprise-wide geodatabase, there are network and connectivity considerations related to this

- Currently parcel boundaries available as a map service, cannot change symbology, cannot extract features, cannot do analysis, can pull up corresponding SDAT page
  - o Next step is to make a map service with parcel points available with a lot of additional attribute information
  - o Raises a question because attribute information includes owner information, sales values, etc.
  - o Have determined with the GIS community which attribute information is most needed for analysis purposes
  - o When this data becomes available people will be raising questions, because owner name and other personal information will be shared
  - o We need to be prepared to cover these requests, and other requests including the data that has not been updated or the data that is in error
  - o These inquiries will be increasing exponentially

- Working with a lot of counties in integrating MDP points and polygons with what the counties have available
  - o Already have this in place for about 10 counties
  - o Working on 4 more, will have done in another couple of years
  - o Once this process is complete, will have parcel polygons for all counties and can get a better visual understanding of the data
  - o Will also include building level information, type of structure, number of bedrooms, etc.
    - ▪ Used now by only a core group, but considered important
  - o Sales data is also bundled with this other data, fair number of subscribers want this information

- Ultimately there is the goal to share enterprise geodatabase for some of this information amongst a few key agencies and have the ability to do this through reliable network connectivity

Question: Law enforcement and judiciary already have concerns with SDAT information because families are easily identifiable. Homes can be targeted by those who are arrested or retaliation for actions taken. How is this being addressed?
- Everything being addressed is already in the public domain
- This is only a new way to make the data available
- Montgomery County released a web version of property data with tax assessment information with the owner's last name removed and a log-in to request and track access to the system

- There are other organizations that have already gone through this, trying to learn from these actions

Open Data and MD iMap

Data.Maryland.gov, what's new and on the way? – Josh Exler (StateStat)

- Joshua Exler (joshua.exler@maryland.gov) is available for any support for Socrata
- GovStat being delivered, demo website available now
  - Create reports, offers a drag and drop interface, graphs, text and embed into a webpage
  - Create goal sites, which is similar to Governor's https://data.maryland.gov/goals
  - All data from Socrata is feeding into GovStat
  - An example of Maryland Violent Crime Dashboard which is fed from updated datasets on Socrata is available
  - Graphs which are included in a report are automatically updated based on the updates to the source data in the system
- Ways to use Socrata data to build dashboards and embed data using html in webpages, not limited to GovData capabilities or accessibility
- To obtain an account for Socrata or GovStat site, contact Joshua and he will provide you a username and password
- A lot of other organizations have produced similar results, including Kansas City and the City of Edmonton

- Since launching the Open Data site, a lot of the data has gotten out-of-date
- Have pulled out some of the oldest datasets and want to encourage that data is being refreshed
- Need to develop internal procedures to make sure these datasets are getting refreshed and updated
- Have responded to concerns of getting data into Socrata, there is a learning curve
- Socrata requires something equivalent to a .csv format from Microsoft Excel
- Do not want to duplicate efforts, so formatting will be important to allow for upload into multiple systems
- Low-tech and low-cost ways, SODA, to scrape data out of a resource and into a .csv format
- Can also run a VB script in Excel to scrape the particular data of interest from a site into a worksheet

- If there are concerns about privacy, all data is private by default and not made public until publisher chooses to make the data public, potential data concerns are addressed with these settings

- Example of goals interface would allow GovStat interface to track whether on track, define where you want to be when and will calculate whether on track, along with some other statistics of the data
- Interface layout has lots of options, including graphs and charts, which can be applied without having to get into the code itself
- Modifying the code does allow for more modification and sophisticated layouts
- Different components can be drag/dropped into a layout include: header, charts already on Open Data Portal, can create a new chart just within GovStat, back-end powered through Open Data Portal
- Adding more features all of the time to GovStat, a great option, but not the only one

Question: Does signing in only allow you to see your published data?
- Only public data is visible, everything public, so someone can push out someone else's data
- Cannot currently push out private data, not an option in the list of datasets to be included in the layout

Question: Who can load data into the system? How is loading data and accuracy of what is being pushed to the public controlled?
- Anyone can request a Socrata account and can upload data
- General public cannot upload data without an account
- Account requested by email to Joshua Exler (joshua.exler@maryland.gov)

Question: Can accounts be created for non-State employees?
- To date we have not denied an account request
- Most requests have been from the public sector to this point, but do not see why this could not be expanded to the private sector

Question: Are their standards to ensure accuracy of data?
- Uploads or changes are reviewed by administrator (Josh) who has to accept or reject the request
- Make sure everything is formatted, make sure metadata is complete, no blank cells or other errors
- Reject includes an email which explains why rejected and what might need to be changed to get accepted

Question: Do you have experience responding to the public based on information found in Open Data Portal?
- Metadata shows who is dataset owner and can email them directly with questions
- Very few questions, to date, have been from public about existing datasets
- Do not have standards for how to communicate with the public
- Do not know that the data owners are the best people to communicate with the public
- The data owner is the person who published the data, which is often a Open Data Liaison

Question: Is there a way to set an alert system to get a prompt to update the data, to owner and manager?
- That is possible using the API
- There might be some other site that has worked this out, which can be integrated into our system
- Metadata requires to be entered to suggest how often the data needs to be updated and this could be leveraged to set an alert

Question: Posting data applies the rules of a PIA?
- Requires to respond based on the rules of the PIA
- For justifiable business needs can hold back the information

Question: Is account notified of comments?
- Yes, owner would know, as well as Administrator, who is Josh

- Trying to build out Open Data network, still have a ways to go, MDP has the most data on the system
- There is a lot more data that needs to be added and want to see Maryland aiding the efforts nationally
- Known that municipalities will have hardest time getting access
- New licensing will allow for micro-sites which will allow municipalities 50 free datasets
  - Will expect to ask for 25 specific datasets, for consistency across the board
- MML has interest in working with Open Data to make this happen and share these resources
- Would be able to embed a micro-site onto any website

iMap.Maryland.gov, what's new and on the way? (Presentation Available) – Barney Krucoff (DoIT)
- Currently under Data tab have look up or use Data Search
- Layers are organized into International Standards Organization (ISO) categories
  - Which is a standard we choose to follow
  - We modify some of these categories based on need

- A service can be brought into a mapping system
- A service is not easily downloadable in a spreadsheet or for developer's use

- Moving forward to try and make the spatial data more easily accessible and downloadable
- Putting Portal into new template, which hope to reveal at TUgis (March 18, 2014)
- Homepage, highlight maps on the homepage of agencies or areas of interest
- New Map Gallery will provide centralized search of applications, maps, not the data itself

- New Data Catalog is run in ArcGIS Online (AGOL), taking existing MD iMap services (268) and breaking them up by groups
- AGOL users each group is same as ISO categories (ex. – Society data might come from multiple agencies)
- Can use keywords to search the data, using metadata and tags to provide search results
- Interactive capabilities of the catalog, can see the spatial location of the data, also get some description information and other metadata, tells who posted the data, when it was posted
- Out of the new system is some Socrata-like capabilities we never had before
  - Can download into a table, kml, shapefile or API to support multiple end user communities
  - Filter tables
- Data is still hosted at MD iMap or any agency which has ArcGIS Server and registered with the groups in AGOL and can be searchable through this new software interface
- Huge for distributing MD iMap data, more we can grow this capability makes the data much more open

- Another big change is separating out certain types of data and now have a whole section of LiDAR
- LiDAR stands for Light Detection and Ranging and is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of pulsed laser to measure distance to the Earth
- Used to be a labor intensive process to acquire topographic data, now more sophisticated and being featured on the new site
- State has a good wealth of LiDAR data, but it is not necessary the most used data within the community
- Data that is out there, trying to feature data we have, so people can find it and use it
- Featuring LiDAR at the ground level, but potential to expand offerings

- Socrata and AGOL are both Cloud services, DoIT pays for both services
- Socrata now has a 500 dataset limit, where before we were paying for transactions and data space
- 500 gives us comfortable room for posting sites, current have "185" datasets in the system
- Geocoding should be done using the Maryland Composite Locator available through MD iMap
- No user limits, unlimited publishers, unlimited storage

- AGOL paid for as part of the ELA with Esri for the State of Maryland

- 500 named users, already have 300+
- On GSA schedule would cost about $60,000
- Get 30,000 credits, used for storing data, creating tiles, geocoding, publishing of stored data
- Want to have data hosted on MD iMap and referenced through AGOL
- Pay for processing against Esri geocoder, but not Maryland geocoder
- Do not bill back to agencies, but covered by DoIT budget
- Credit usage is managed well and we still have lots of credits to be used

- Socrata is behind a lot of what is interactive on Maryland State websites, such as BayStat map
- Provides for open data and a graph and map which display this data
- Data sharable in raw form
- Also shared via applications which can be embedded in a website to get the story out
- Allows for telling stories that management want told

Local governments and open data – Matt Power (StateStat)
- No content available

Open Discussion
How do we leverage the Governor's proposed investment in Property View to further GIS and Open Data goals statewide?
- No content available

Does it or does it not make sense to combine MD iMap and Open Data efforts and to what extent? Regarding Governance? Websites? Other?
- No content available

Specific comments on the proposed legislation?
- No content available

How should State Agencies and Local Governments work together on GIS and Open Data?
- No content available

Conclusion and Next Steps – *Mike Powell (Governor's Office)*
- No content available